

**Minutes of the September 16, 2010  
HP/FH Committee Meeting  
First Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall  
9:00 a.m.**

***Attendance***

**Present:** Chris Hoffmann (CH) (Recording Secretary), Ellen Kosmer (EK,) Claude Tellier (CT), Nancy Gregg (NG), Chair. Nate Malloy (NM) (Staff)

**Public:** Andrew Barker (AB), state representative for 40B

***Actions:***

Called to order at 9:05am

**August Minutes approved:** CT/EK. Unanimous

***Discussion:***

**Question 2, Repeal of 40B:** Mr Barker discussed the status of the campaign against Question 2, which would repeal the primary state housing law, “40B”. He reported that they are focusing on publicity right now. It was noted that 40B provides the only regional approach to affordable housing; it gets affordable housing developments done outside of cities. The area hill towns in particular are in need of senior housing. He said that if it is not repealed it may spur both sides to work on addressing actual shortcomings in the law. He also provided informational brochures and campaign materials that individual members could use.

**Rolling Green:** Ms Gregg reported that there will be 40 vouchers this year which will not have rent raises. But in two years all 200 units will come off the affordable housing inventory. Mr Malloy said that the town was still working with the owners to try to come to some agreement to preserve affordability.

**CDBG:** Mr Malloy reported that the CDBG process is starting up and they are looking for projects. After the new census comes out, it is possible that Amherst may not be eligible for “mini-entitlements” anymore, making it harder to get block grants. We have been close to the limit in recent years.

**Housing Trust:** Mr Malloy said we should think of this as two campaigns:

1. Get the trust formed
2. Get funding each year

We want to ensure the membership of the trust can help with securing funds. The committee needs to consider what the trust will look like and be prepared to talk about how it differs from what other communities might do.

**Membership:** We need to find a replacement for Jeanne Haggerty, whose term has expired.

**AHA:** Ms Gregg has been attending meetings. HUD is now applying uniform rules; no longer reducing rents for only some people. The committee thought AHA should keep informed about their activities. For instance, potential increases in rent at Rolling Green might be a fair housing issue.

**Tasks:** Read Chapters 1-4 of the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Guidebook.

***Next meeting:***

October 14 at 9am, First Floor Mtg Room, Town Hall

***Materials Distributed*** (Available in the Planning Dept., Town Hall)

Agenda

Minutes of the 8-18-2010 Public Meeting

Summary of Ballot Question 2: Comprehensive Permits

Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Guidebook

***Adjournment***

Voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:43. CH/CT

***Submitted By***

Chris Hoffmann